



**CENTRAL VALLEY DISTRICT WEST
EAST OHIO CONFERENCE
LAY SERVANT MINISTRIES COURSES
April 18 in Wooster, OH**



The Central Valley West District Lay Servant Ministries (LSM) Committee will offer the following courses:

Introduction to Lay Ministry, the Basic Course: This course is foundational for all courses in Lay Servant Ministries. Participants are encouraged to discover and employ personal spiritual gifts as God intended and to consider the importance of exercising servant leadership, developing future leaders, remaining rooted in consistent spiritual practices, and being part of a group that holds members accountable in their discipleship. **Book Required: *Lay Servant Ministries – Basic Course* by Sandy Zeigler Jackson and Brian Jackson.**

Discover Your Spiritual Gifts (Advanced Course): This course helps participants understand spiritual gifts and how the church can use them to fulfill its mission and ministry. Participants will also learn what it means to be a spiritual leader and will be equipped to lead others in exploring and using their spiritual gifts. **Book Required: *Each One a Minister* by William J. Carter.** You will also complete a Spiritual Gifts Inventory which will be sent to you once you register for this course.

Ministry with the Forgotten: Dementia Through a Spiritual Lens (Advanced Course): This course is designed to help laity and clergy deepen their understanding of persons living with dementia and help all maintain their identity and worth as beloved children of God. Participants will discover what it means to carry each other's memories, joys, and diminishment together in community. Through loving practices that nurture and incorporate persons with Alzheimer's and dementia into the church's life and ministry, we experience a spiritual wholeness rooted in God's grace beyond our own strengths and capacities. **Book Required: *Ministry with the Forgotten: Dementia through a Spiritual Lens* by Kenneth L. Carder.**

When: Saturday, April 18 from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Where: Wooster United Methodist Church, 243 N. Market Street, Wooster, OH 44691

*** Check-In, pastries, and fellowship will be from 7:30 – 7:55 a.m.

Cost: \$30, includes lunch and refreshments.

PLEASE ALSO NOTE: You are responsible for purchasing your own course book. To receive the required number of course hours, you must read your course book, complete the exercises contained within the book and be prepared to participate in class. If cost is a barrier, first ask your church if they can sponsor you. If they cannot sponsor you, you may apply for a scholarship online at: <https://eastohio-reg.brtapp.com/LayServantTrainingScholarship>.

Anyone can take any of these courses for spiritual growth, you do not have to be a member of a UMC or be seeking certification as a Lay Servant, Lay Speaker, or Lay Minister. It is our sincere hope that you will join us for this opportunity of education and fellowship.

Questions? Contact Steve Gilson at gilsonsd@aol.com or (330) 264-7203.

**Register using the QR code above or here:
<https://eastohio-reg.brtapp.com/CentralValleyLSMApr2026>**

The last day to register is April 11